

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 6-20 are pending. The specification has been editorially amended to for clarity by replacing the word “claim” (where it refers to a specific claim) with the term --embodiment--. Claims 6-20 find support in the specification and original claims as follows: Claim 6 (Claims 1 and 2, pages 4-8 generally, primers at page 6, line 6-page 7, line 20); Claim 7 (Claim 1, page 5, lines 9-10); Claim 8 (Claim 1); Claim 9 (Claim 1, elected species); Claim 10 (Claim 2); Claim 11 (page 10, lines 22-23); Claim 12 (page 1, lines 2-4, ); Claim 13 (Claim 1, page 5, lines 9-10); Claim 14 (Claim 1); Claim 15 (Claim 1, elected species); Claim 16 (Claim 2); Claim 17 (page 10, lines 22-23); Claim 18 (Claim 3); Claim 19 (Claim 4); and Claim 20 (Claim 5). Accordingly, the Applicants do not believe that any new matter has been added.

Sequence Listing

The paper copy of the Sequence Listing filed herewith for this application is identical to the paper copy and the computer readable Sequence Listing filed on July 15, 2002 in the present application’s parent: U.S. Application No. 10/126,611.

In accordance with 37 CFR § 1.821 (e), please use the computer readable form (CRF) filed on July 15, 2002 in the parent application as the computer readable form for the present application. It is understood that the Patent and Trademark Office will make the necessary change in application number and filing date for the instant application.

Preliminary Amendment

CONCLUSION

The Applicants now respectfully request entry of the Preliminary Amendment and an early examination on the merits.

Respectfully submitted,

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